

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 619

By Southerland

A RESOLUTION to congratulate Donna Carter on being chosen
as Whitesburg Elementary School's Teacher of
the Year.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to
specially recognize those outstanding teachers who have devoted their careers to providing the
highest quality education for Tennessee's students; and

WHEREAS, Donna Carter is one such estimable educator who has distinguished herself
as a professional of the greatest dedication, ability, and integrity; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Carter was recently selected as the Whitesburg Elementary School
Teacher of the Year, an honor most befitting her outstanding tenure as a teacher as it
recognizes the positive influence she has had on so many young lives; and

WHEREAS, a fourth-grade teacher at Whitesburg Elementary School, Donna Carter is a
graduate of East Tennessee State University; she holds a Masters of Arts degree in Reading
and a Bachelors of Science degree in Elementary Education. A licensed elementary teacher,
she has taught at Whitesburg Elementary School for eighteen years of her twenty-year career;
and

WHEREAS, in addition to her classroom teaching duties at the elementary school, Ms.
Carter has served as a member of the Textbook Committee, as a Science Fair Coordinator, as
the School Coordinator for the Thoughtful Classroom initiative, and as a member of the School
Improvement Leadership Team; and

WHEREAS, in service to the school district on a county-wide level, she was a member of
the Curriculum Mapping Committee, the Science Curriculum Development Committee, and the
Science Curriculum Correlation Committee; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Carter is also an adjunct faculty member at Walters State Community College, where she teaches developmental reading; additionally, she is a mentor to new faculty members and has served as a student-teacher mentor for Tusculum College and East Tennessee State University; and

WHEREAS, Donna Carter is a two-time recipient of the Walmart Teacher Appreciation and her class has earned five first-place prizes and one second-place prize in the Hamblen County Director's Writing Contest; and

WHEREAS, her extensive professional development includes co-creator of "Write to the Point: Creative Writing for All Grades," which she presented to schools in Hamblen County and other districts in East Tennessee, and she has presented at the East Tennessee Title I Conference as well as Hamblen County in-services; and

WHEREAS, Donna Carter is a member of United Russellville Methodist Church, where she serves on the Pastor Parrish Relations Committee and has served as a substitute Sunday school teacher, Vacation Bible School teacher, and a member of the church choir; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Carter has also rendered sterling service as the clock keeper for the Cherokees' basketball team, a sponsor of an after-school book club, a 4-H sponsor, a Career Camp counselor at Walters State Community College, and an education representative for the local United Way; and

WHEREAS, Donna Carter is an educator who has worked assiduously to motivate her students to reach their full potential, and she is a caring and effective community volunteer in Whitesburg and Hamblen County; and

WHEREAS, Donna Carter truly epitomizes the paragon of the dedicated teacher who is wholly committed to the highest ideals of public service and quality education for all, and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend Donna Carter upon being named as Whitesburg Elementary School's Teacher of the Year and we extend to her our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.